



MINUTES

Citizens Advisory Committee

Via WebEx

September 8, 2021 | 11:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Member of CAC	Present	Absent
Diana Aguirre Martinez	✓	
Frank Gonzalez	✓	
Andy Castillo	✓	
Raquel Zapata	✓	
John Kelly	✓	
Joe Yakubik	✓	
Allie Watters	✓	
Adelita Cantu	✓	
David Walter	✓	
Mary Dennis	✓	
Bill Day		✓
Luisa Casso- Chair	✓	
MaryEllen Veliz	✓	

Also Present were:

Shannon Albert	Amelia Badders	Fred Bonewell
Justin Chamberlain	Diana Coleman	Velma Corona
Tom Corser	Melissa Carrillo Cox	Guillermo DeHoyos
Daniel Elias	Paul Escamilla	KJ Feder
Gabriel Garcia	Kathleen Garcia	Rudy Garza
Julia Carrillo Haynes	Andrew Higgins	Charles Hoopingarner
David Kee	Loretta Kerner	Ann Kinnard
Rhonda Krisch	Christian Krueger	Kelly Kuhle
Luis Labatt	Eunice Lopez	Rick Luna
Kari Meyer	Karma Nilsson	Robert Nathan
Robert Nelson	Christine Patmon	Yvette Cardiel-Perez
Unity Puente	Gina Riak	Ricci Schooler
Melissa Sorola	Prabha Somawardana	Marie Stoner
Nancy Tabares	Jonathon Tijerina	

CALL MEETING TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND SAFETY MESSAGE

The WebEx meeting was called to order at 11:32 a.m. by Chair Luisa Casso.

Invocation was made by MaryEllen Veliz.

Julia Carrillo Haynes provided a safety message and updated the group of CPS Energy's efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. A moment of silence was taken for the employees who have passed due to COVID-19: Ramiro Gonzalez Jr., Veronica Bustos, and Michael Martinez. Ms. Haynes also acknowledged Joe Yakubik for his years of service on the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), as he recently resigned from the CAC and the

new appointment from District 9 Councilman John Courage will go before the CPS Energy Board of Trustees at the September Board meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the CAC meeting held on August 11, 2021 were approved as read.

Motion by Diana Aguirre Martinez seconded by Mary Dennis.

UTILITY UPDATE

Rudy Garza, Chief Customer & Stakeholder Engagement Officer, updated the Committee on the national supply chain crisis, indicating the supply shortage will last at least through Spring 2022 and possibly longer. Chair Casso stated her concerns with the upcoming winter months and requested an update on how CPS Energy is preparing for the national supply shortage.

PRODUCT INNOVATION

Drew Higgins, Senior Director, Products & Services and Rick Luna, Director, Technology & Product Innovation presented an update on the STEP Bridge program. Rick mentioned the STEP program offers a diverse range of programs with industry-leading partnerships. The STEP program has achieved 926 MW of demand savings since FY09. Also mentioned that in FY21, they have weatherized 1,726 homes, installed 4,416 solar systems on homes and businesses, and issued 55,781 energy efficiency rebates. CPS Energy issued a global Request for Proposals (RFP) for ideas to deliver energy efficiency and conservation programs that help increase access for all customers, save energy, reduce demand and support local jobs while lowering emissions.

Presenters provided context on the following topics:

- STEP BRIDGE PROGRAM UPDATE
- *FLEXSTEP & THE FLEXIBLE PATH*
- *FLEXSTEP RFP CONTRACT AWARDS*
- INNOVATIVE & NEW PROGRAMS

Mr. Higgins also mentioned the upcoming National Drive Electric Day and the events occurring Oct. 1-2, 2021 at CPS Energy Headquarters and the Pearl Stable.

FINANCIAL UPDATE AND PREVIEW OF PROVISIONAL RATE CASE

Cory Kuchinsky, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer provided an update on CPS Energy's financial journey since the last rate increase and information on the drivers of our financial need. He highlighted that CPS Energy has only had one rate increase in almost 12 years with the last increase being nearly eight years ago. CPS Energy has identified over \$900M in savings throughout the organization since 2011. Additionally, since the last rate increase the utility has endured a variety of changing circumstances including a 17% increase in electric customers and 12% increase in gas customers; an increase in peak system demand; an increase in cyber data breach attempts; aging technology; and, fewer employees. It was also noted that the need for a rate increase was building even before the impacts of the pandemic and Winter Storm Uri. The rate request would include support for operations and growth and to offset pandemic bad debt, Winter Storm Uri fuel costs, debt paydown. CPS Energy continues to assess the actual percentage increase needed to sustain operations and will return to the Board of Trustees later this fall with the actual amount needed.

STAFF UPDATE

Julia Carrillo Haynes, Manager of Local Government Relations provided the following update:

- The RAC Working Groups will commence September 9, at 9:00 a.m., and the next RAC meeting will be on September 15, at 5:30 p.m.
- The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on September 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m., at which time the CAC appointee for District 9 will be presented for approval.
- The City of San Antonio's Municipal Utilities Committee will be September 29, at 10:00 a.m.
- Next CAC meeting will be held on October 13, 2021.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE

Chair Luisa Casso asked each member to make announcements or comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.